

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor, Dwight Benoit
Wednesday, September 8, 2021, ~ Bible Study

The Epistle of Paul to Titus

Titus—*Believer, Servant, Partner—Fellow-worker, a Leader to The Church of GOD in Crete...*

Tonight's text: Titus 1: 10-16 ~ Teachers *teaching* wrong doctrine and leading others into error.

Focus on **Titus 1: 13-15...**

After the witness given of “the society of Crete” and “the false teachers/teachings—leading others into error: *subverting*—undermining **TRUTH**; *unruly*; *vain-talkers*; *deceivers*; *personal gains* (it's all about me); *profit* for the prophet; *reputation* without Character; *chronic liars*; *evil beast*; *idle-gluttonous* (vss. 11, 12)... After such witness, *What now?*

Remember, these False-teachers were *in* The Church-house Assemblies... *Professing* to be followers of **CHRIST**. *What now?* False-teaching *hurts* **The Church** and *believers*, by turning them away from **GOD** and **CHRIST** and destroys its *Mission* and *Ministries*. *What now?*

V. 13b, “*rebuke*” them sharply (*sternly*; *chide*—speak out against them. Be careful with the definitions like *reprove*: chew-out. *Scold*: nag continuously. *Reprimand*: severe rebuke, to put out) ... *Rebuke* in the Greek here is *elegxis* (el'-eng-xis), that is the *conviction* that *rebukes* the *sin* of the double-minded... (Example **Numbers 22: 22-32, a talking donkey makes more sense that Balaam the sorcerer who curses**)

Two reasons by the False-teachers and their followers were to be “*rebuked*” ...

1. V. 13c., So they might become ‘sound in the faith.’

Paul does not say to Titus, ‘Leave them alone.’ ‘They are hopeless, everybody knows that.’ ‘You can not help them.’ Point: The greater the evil, The Greater the Challenge.

It is *The CHRISTian conviction* that there is no *sin* which is too great for

The G.R.A.C.E. of JESUS CHRIST to *encounter* and to *conquer*.

These False-teachers were not *sound* in their **Faith in GOD**; they did not stand *with* **CHRIST** nor **The TRUTH of CHRIST**; nor were they Teaching **The WORD of GOD** in its *purity* and *simplicity*.

Point: They were *lost*; in danger of being *lost* and *condemned* for Eternity. In addition, they were leading others astray. Attempting to *root* them in ‘*sound doctrine*’ had to be made—both *with* **CHRIST** and *for* their own Eternal Salvation.

2. V. 14, they were to be *rebuked* so they might cease from their ‘fables and man-made religious rules. Jewish fables and myths, imaginations within man’s mind, and man-made rules of religion. That turns from **The TRUTH**.

Read Ephesian 5: 11; I Thessalonians 5: 14; I Timothy 5: 20; 2 Timothy 4: 2

“This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke then sharply, that they may be sound in the faith.”
(Titus 1: 13)

V. 15, these False-teachers were *'impure, totally impure.'*

"To the pure, all things are pure; but to the corrupt and unbelieving, nothing is pure; both their mind and their conscience are corrupted." (Titus 1: 15)

The Question is, "How does a person become 'pure' and 'righteous' before GOD?"

The wrong way is "by works". By doing the "works of religion."

By "*doing good and being good.*" This is where so many of The Laws, rituals, ceremonies of 'religion' come from—man's *desire* to be acceptable to **GOD**.

Point: No religion and no man-made rule or work can save a man from *sin* and death!

Point: Man can not do enough good works to create a *'pure mind'* and *'conscience'* within himself, that has absolute assurance of living forever.

The only way to become pure and righteous before GOD is by JESUS CHRIST—by believing in JESUS CHRIST...

- *By trusting HIS Purity and RIGHTEOUSNESS to cover us.*
- *By trusting HIS death, burial, resurrection, and ascension on GOD'S Right Hand, to cover us. HE forgives our transgressions. HE cleanses our iniquities. We are free from sin in CHRIST; through our faith in CHRIST, GOD counts us pure and righteousness.*

This is what this verse means, "To the pure (in CHRIST), all things (in CHRIST) are pure (to us); but to the corrupt and unbelieving, nothing is pure; both their mind and their conscience are corrupted." (Titus 1: 15)

These False-teachers and their followers—who in fact were *unbelievers*—lack *the absolute assurance of forgiveness* and of *Eternal Life*—of being acceptable to **GOD**. Their minds and consciences were defiled. No matter what their man-made religious rules were: *rules governing foods (what we ought to eat and not eat), disciplines, do's and don'ts, washings, baptisms, ceremonies, rituals, fasts (Daniel-diets), how many times we go to The Church-house for worship*—they are all impure. They are only *physical and material* and man-made substances—all to perish after they die.

Note also, "Unto the pure all things are pure" did not mean, that 'dope'—prescriptive marijuana and alcoholic beverages which will dull the mind and destroy the body are pure.

Point: When **CHRIST** died, was buried, and rose from the dead—**CHRIST** is the end of the law for **RIGHTEOUSNESS** to every one that believeth!" (Read Romans 10: 4)

In this **CHRISTIAN** era, it is not what we eat or drink that saves us or damns us...

Read Matthew 22: 42; John 1: 12, 13

The person who is a **Ture Child of GOD** will not use this passage to attempt to prove that all things are right and lawful for the **CHRISTIAN**. There are those who say that

"If you think something is not *sin*, then to you it is not *sin*." The Bible is clear,

Read Ephesians 5: 11; I John 2: 15; I Thessalonians 5: 22, 21; I Corinthians 10: 31

To the unbeliever, everything is made the means of increasing their *depravity*, their unrighteousness, and their ungodliness. It makes no difference what; it matters not what distinctions; the unbelievers will push aside **The Mercies of GOD** and satisfy their own lusts.

Read Matthew 5: 8; Mark 7: 23; Romans 1: 28; Ephesians 4: 17; Colossians 2: 18; I Peter 1: 22